"TWENTY YEARS AFTER."

CELEBRATION IN PARIS OF THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

McAll Mission in France.

WITH ADDRESSES BY

PASTORS APPIA, DHOMBRES, HOCART, HOLLARD, THEODORE MONOD, RECOLIN, &c.

Offices of the Mission

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The Statuette, representing "Luther singing in the streets for his daily bread," is by Beer, an Austrian sculptor. The right of reproducing the statuette belongs to Messrs. Susse Brothers, 31 Place de la Bourse, Paris.

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AN ACCOUNT OF THE

SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD IN PARIS

TO CELEBRATE THE

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

McAll Mission in France,

AND THE

SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY OF THE PRESIDENT.

THE Special Meetings held on 16th and 18th January, were occasions of great interest and refreshment to all who were privileged to take part in them. A few words are needed to explain how and by whom these *fêtes* were arranged.

The fact that the 17th December last was the seventieth birthday of Dr. McAll, and that the 17th January was the Twentieth Anniversary of the Mission he had founded, naturally suggested the planning of some special celebration of two such eventful days. So in November last, a circular was issued to all friends of the Mission in Paris, signed by Pastors Theodore Monod, Dhombres, Appia, Fisch, Hocard, Hollard, and Picard, calling a meeting to consider what steps should be taken in the matter.

It was then agreed that a general invitation be given to all friends and workers in France to contribute toward presenting Dr. and Mrs. McAll with some tangible

expression of sympathy and gratitude for all they had attempted and accomplished for the work of the Gospel in France, and that two special gatherings be arranged in due course. The present offered to Dr. and Mrs. McAll was to be in the form of money.

Then it was felt that the people attending the Mission Halls in Paris and throughout France should all have a share in this pleasure; and, accordingly, a letter was addressed to the *habitués* of each Hall, inviting them to prepare and sign a letter to Dr. McAll, which letters would be bound in a volume, and thus form an album of a unique kind. Special paper was prepared, and the sheets posted to each locality. Entire liberty was of course allowed as to the form and length of the letter, which was prepared in most instances by the oldest *habitué* of the station. And very interesting these letters are. How eager were the people to append their signatures, and to give the contribution of one penny towards the present to be also offered by all the attendants of the meetings.

The album has the following inscription:—

"À M. et à M^me^. McAll, de la part des habitués de toutes les Salles Populaires de Paris, de la Banlieue et de la Province, à l'occasion du 70^me^ anniversaire de M. McAll, et du 20^me^ anniversaire de la Mission Populaire Evangélique de France, qu'il a fondée.

17 Janvier, 1892."

"Ceux qui en auront amené à la justice, luiront comme des étoiles, à toujours et à perpétuité."

The present chosen was, as will be seen by the engraving on the cover, a bronze statuette, standing on a marble base, which contains a small timepiece. The statuette, standing about twenty-seven inches high, represents Luther, as a young student, singing in the streets for his daily bread. Round the pedestal is the following inscription:—

"À M. et à Mme McAll, fondateurs de la Mission Populaire Evangélique de France, les auditeurs reconnaissants, 17 Janvier, 1892." "Votre travail ne sera pas vain auprès du Seigneur."

The first meeting was arranged for Saturday afternoon the 16th January, when the friends and workers were invited to meet Dr. and Mrs. McAll at the Hall, 23 Rue Royale. The ladies of the Mission had been busy in decorating the Hall, and with the green wreaths, flags, curtains, and carpets the place was completely transformed. A large company assembled, comprising pastors of all the churches and many friends of all nations. Rev. Dr. Noyes, Rev. Dr. Thurber, Rev. R. de Carteret, Rev. J. Bramley Hart, and Rev. H. T. Hunter represented the English and American Churches.

As the guests of the day arrived they were met by Pastor R. Hollard, the Chairman of the meeting, and escorted by him to the little platform, while all rose and sang the well-known verse—

"Grand Dieu, nous Te bénissons,
Nous célébrons Tes louanges."

After reading of the Scriptures and prayer, Pastor R. Hollard (Free Church) rose and said:—

Dear and honoured Mr. McAll—I will add, dear and honoured Mrs. McAll, for I do not wish to disjoin those whom God has united, and who are altogether one in our regard and gratitude—I must first of all tell you why we are assembled here at this time, and why we have invited you to meet us, for that is, as yet, for you a secret. No doubt this secret has been as well guarded in Auteuil as in Paris, and what most convinces me of this is that it was intrusted to not more than a few hundred persons whose discretion is above suspicion! Well, we remembered that it was just twenty years (or, more exactly, would be so to-morrow, 17th January) since you opened your first hall for the meetings in Paris, which the readers of your reports know as "*Réunions*

populaires," but which for us are and will evermore be called "McAll meetings." In addition, we knew that you, dear Mr. McAll, last month completed your seventieth year. We had some difficulty in believing it, but those who affirmed it were themselves so worthy of confidence that we were obliged to accept their testimony. We therefore desired in this intimate meeting of your friends and fellow-labourers to celebrate, at the same time, your seventieth birthday and the twentieth anniversary of your work. Ah! how

We longed for an opportunity

of giving expression to all the affection and the gratitude which filled our hearts; and with what impatience we watched the approach of the date which would afford us this opportunity! But you would not forgive us if we did not, first of all, give to God the glory due to Him for the work He has permitted you to undertake in our country. For this work is above all from Him. It is He who called you by our misfortunes, and by the voice of that unknown artisan who was to you what the man of Macedonia was to St. Paul, who appeared to him in the vision and said, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." It is He who broke down all the barriers in your way and inspired you with the purpose of coming to us with the Word, the Cross, and the Spirit of Jesus Christ, though these barriers might have seemed to condemn your enterprise as a wild dream. It is He who caused you, though a foreigner, to become

A bond of union

between so many French Christians who are leagued with you to fight in the same holy cause, and who, at your side, have learned to know and love each other better. It is He who placed the seal of success upon your undertaking, since that first station, opened on the evening of the 17th January, 1872, at 103 Rue Julien-Lacroix, Belleville, became only the first of nearly 140 similar stations existing to-day in Paris and the provinces, besides the many schools and services for children, in which the message of salvation is daily offered to thousands of our fellow-citizens, for the most part strangers to every form of Christian worship. I say *offered*, but that

is not sufficient, for I know that this message has been accepted by very many. It has given peace to many hearts and cheered many drooping spirits. There is not one of your co-workers who could not report such cases. Yes; this work is Divine, and therefore, first of all, we render thanks to God. But we thank you also, dear and respected friends, we thank you that you responded to the call from on high; that you were not deterred by the difficulties with which you met at the very outset of your task; that you went forward in faith as seeing that which was invisible; and that when, with the enlargement of the work, its burdens became heavier and heavier, you held on and you still hold on to-day, finding your strength in hoping and expecting even greater things of God. We thank you, not only for what you have done, but for the spirit in which you have done it, a spirit of serene and courageous joy, a spirit of deep and broad charity. We, your friends and co-workers of the earlier days, thank you. There are still a few such here, not many, for twenty years are enough to make broad gaps in the ranks of a generation! In thinking of us who remain I think also of those whom God has called from us. I cannot name them all, but there are three noble French names of those who have gone on before which I must mention; M. Rosseeuw St. Hilaire, your old and faithful friend; M. Bersier, whom God took and transferred to the eternal tabernacles from the very midst of your humble attendants at Boulevard Barbès, whom he so greatly loved, and among whom his serious and powerful speech took a shape so simple. And then there is the name of M. de Pressensé, who more than once told me that he counted it as

One of the greatest honours of his life

that he had been able often to carry the Divine message in your meetings to the labouring classes of Paris. Nor can we forget the beloved George Theophilus Dodds, who, though not a Frenchman, laid down his life in labouring for the eternal welfare of the French people. We thank you also in the name of the friends and co-workers whom God has given you in the course of your labours. We thank you in the name of the Churches of France for the good you have done to the community in the midst of which they labour, and for

the recruits they have received into their ranks from your attendants, and because, at the critical moment, you brought them one of the most striking demonstrations of their spiritual unity and the power of the old Gospel of Christ for the salvation of men, of their country, and of their age. We thank you in the name of our different missionary societies, both home and foreign. They are engaged, and some of them have long been engaged, in the same work as yourself. They have never looked upon you as a rival, but as a friend and an ally, whose missionary zeal was for them an example, an encouragement, and a promise.

We thank you

in the name of our beloved country, to which you have so generously devoted yourself, seeking, in the midst of Frenchmen, not to make Englishmen, but Christians, serving Jesus Christ without surrendering anything of the genius of their race or of their nobler traditions. Ah! let me here express what we certainly have all felt at this time, when the nations of our ancient Europe seem to dream but of battles and of barriers to be raised between them in order to prevent the dissemination of the blessings which each has received for the benefit of the rest. There is something supremely beneficent—a symbol and a prophecy of better times for which we long—in this spectacle of a foreigner who thinks of France only to bring her the most precious gift he possesses, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May our Lord give you, dear Mr. and Mrs. McAll, good health, long life, courage and strength, ever increasing! May He bless you and the Church which so generously gave you to us! May He bless you for all the blessings you have brought to us! May He grant you here below to reap an abundant harvest from your faithful sowing, while we wait for that other, better, and still richer harvest which we together shall behold in the light which shall reveal all the fruits of faith and of love, and, above all, of the infinite faithfulness of our God!

A duet was sung by two Christian ladies, "D'un cœur qui T'aime," after which M. Louis Sautter, one of the Directors of the Mission, and one of its most attached friends, said:—

Dear Dr. and Mrs. McAll,—The great honour has been conferred on me of expressing to you to-day the gratitude towards God and the affection for you which fills the hearts of your co-workers and your friends. We praise God that the work which you in humility, love, and faith began twenty years ago at Belleville has been prospered, and has extended into all the quarters of Paris, and a great many cities of France. We praise God that in the halls which you have opened the good news of salvation have been faithfully proclaimed to a great many who had never before heard them, and who, but for you, would probably never have had the opportunity of hearing them. We praise God for the conversions, the changed lives, the household peace, the consolation which, under God, have been the result of your labours, and which have won for you the approval and the respect of even those who do not believe the Gospel. And we love you, dear friends, for your inexhaustible goodness to all; for the examples of devotion, of gentleness, of patience, and of perseverance which you have never ceased to give us, alike in the day of small beginnings, when you were almost alone, sustained only by your faith, and in the midst of the difficulties of every kind involved in the direction of a work so widely extended as yours now is. There is not one of your co-workers but has been strengthened in faith by seeing you at your task, or who does not consider it an honour and a blessing to have been associated with you in it.

Yes, we love you, and we are happy to tell you so, and we ask for you the most precious of Heaven's blessings.

The friends of the Mission in Paris, and in other parts of France in which you have established or aided in establishing Mission-halls, have contributed in order to offer you some

Tangible testimony of their affection,

and a souvenir of this happy anniversary. But when the question of choosing a gift arose we were, it must be confessed, greatly perplexed. What could they choose which would really give you pleasure? Respecting your tastes, your personal wants, shall I say your fancies, even those who

know you best are so little informed. You have so few wants, or you hide them so skilfully, that the only desire which appears is that you may even more completely sacrifice yourself in the service of our Divine Master, and the salvation of man. We have, therefore, decided to ask you to choose for yourself. You will find the means for it in this pocket-book which I have the pleasure of offering to you on behalf of a large number of subscribers. Their unanimous wish, which you cannot refuse to comply with, is that you should employ the contents of the pocket-book (4750 francs) wholly for your own use and personal comfort.

Dear Mrs. McAll,—You have shared in all the labours and fatigues of your husband. You have ever been his most faithful assistant. You know that we never separate you from him in our affection and in our prayers. Please accept this vase and this palm-plant as a gift from the lady-workers of the Mission.

Dr. McAll then rose, greatly affected, and replied as follows:—

Monsieur Hollard and dear Friends,—You have indeed prepared for Mrs. McAll and myself a complete surprise, this afternoon! It is impossible to tell you how deeply we are touched by these testimonies of your affection on the completion of twenty years of labour here. The sentiment always present to my mind, when I think of this work, and of its history, is that of entire personal unworthiness to be chosen by the Lord to undertake such an enterprise in His name; and never has that sentiment rested so profoundly on my spirit as it does to-day, after twenty years in the work, and seventy years of my life.

During these twenty years you, dear French pastors and laymen, have not only given me your valuable co-operation, but you have surrounded Mrs. McAll and myself with

Your friendship and your affection.

Far from treating with distrust or coldness the foreigner who suddenly appeared in your midst, you have made him feel,

from years past, that he is no longer a foreigner among you! (Applause.)

You, M. Hollard, have mentioned some among the many dear friends of our work whom the Lord has already called to Himself. Let me add to that list yet other cherished names—Pastor Georges Fisch, my very earliest friend in Paris, and the one who encouraged me by his fraternal letters to attempt this work; M. Keller, Dr. Gustave Monod. And I will add the names of dear French ladies likewise gone before—Madame de Staël, Madame André-Walther, Madame Schneider, Madame St. Hilaire, Madame Keller. Thank God that so large a number yet remain to us, the value of whose friendship we feel more and more as the years glide by.

And I thank for their presence, to-day, the representatives of kindred works—Miss de Broen, who set herself to the sacred work at Belleville even before us; Madame Dalencourt, directress of the "Mission to Working Women;" those connected with the Rev. W. Gibson's Wesleyan Evangelistic Mission; and the directors of the several works which are wholly sustained by the French Churches, as well as those designed for the welfare of the British and Americans in Paris. We esteem highly, dear friends, this mark of your sympathy, and we shall always account your success as equally our own.

And you, my worthy and beloved colleagues who form the working staff of our Mission, the committee of direction, the missionaries; and you, dear Christian ladies, who give yourselves with such disinterestedness to the work, need I assure you of

My attachment and my gratitude?

What patience you have exercised towards your old President, even when you have found him, perhaps, a little domineering, arbitrary, opinionated! Some of you from the very beginning, like my first colleague, Monsieur Emile Rouilly; others for many years past, like Messieurs Louis Sautter and Greig—all of you unitedly, have seconded me with unswerving fidelity, with unflagging zeal. And I render thanks to God for having given to us, in answer to our prayers, my dear new colleague, representative of our American friends, the Rev. Dr. Loba.

Dear pastors, laymen, colleagues, Christian ladies, friends, we desire to-day to set ourselves anew to work with you, hand-in-hand, in seeking to advance, in this beloved country of France, the kingdom of our glorious Saviour !

After singing two verses of the hymn, "Jusqu' à la mort nous Te serons fidèles," the Chairman called upon the venerable Pastor DHOMBRES, Reformed Church, now quite blind, who said :—

In 1871, immediately after the horrors of the war, when the gates of Paris were again opened, a generous Englishman, George Moore, hastened to us with provisions for our starving people. He, at the same time, distributed in the country, stripped by the ravages of war, seeds for the next harvest. I seem still to see in one of the rooms adjoining my church of St. Esprit, the throng gathered around my venerable colleague, M. Guillaume Monod, and myself, while we distributed supplies of pork, flour, and cheese, to the suffering families of our parish, who pressed our hands with gratitude. We prayed, wept, and gave thanks.

What George Moore did for the physical welfare of Paris and the Provinces, the Rev. Mr. McAll did, a few months later, after the Commune, for their spiritual necessities. He had said to himself, "Woe unto me if I preach not the Gospel;" and what country, what people did he wish to evangelise ? It was ours !

Yes, it was the Gospel which he brought

to our fellow-citizens, crushed and stripped by war and internal dissensions. As a foreigner, with his noble and sympathetic bearing, Mr. McAll could better than ourselves attract the attention of our people. Not representing any official Church among us, he had access more readily than ourselves to the labouring classes, which, we regret to confess, through distrust and hostility, held themselves aloof and apart from our various Christian communities. The Gospel proclaimed in simplicity in those meetings, soon proved itself to have a peculiar interest and attraction for those ignorant and, in some cases, childlike souls, to whom its novelty was peculiarly attractive. It was indeed the

Gospel in its simplicity—in its power. From the first moment, with remarkable penetration, Mr. McAll saw that no political allusions or religious controversies ought to be introduced in these meetings. These things would have excited popular feeling, and gratified the often frivolous curiosity of the French character, rather than have served to advance God's kingdom. Hymns, full of life and movement, held the attention, and charmed the listeners. These exquisite verses, speaking of Heaven, and set to captivating melodies, were just what were needed for the poor, the humble, and the neglected, coming into the *Réunions McAll*, well-nigh overborne by the burdens of life.

They found at the same time, at the hands of Mr. and Mrs. McAll, the kindliest, most affable, and gracious reception, and that sympathy which comes from one heart and goes right to another. Not to speak of that cordial grasp of the hand on quitting the halls, causing them to feel at home in meetings expressly designed for them.

Twenty years have passed, and the humble meeting at Belleville, the cradle of this great movement, has expanded into similar meetings, not only at all points of Paris, but also in the other large cities of France, which every evening call together hundreds and thousands of souls, eager to be fed with the Divine bread. Who can tell all the present and future good of such a work? Real conversions have been accomplished; men and women have passed from darkness into light, from death to life.

Think of the humble homes transformed!

Think of the lowly graves around which heaven's light has been shed! Think of the children in the numerous Sunday and Thursday schools who learn to cry "Hosanna! Blessed be He who cometh in the name of the Lord!" And, along with all this, an incontestable moralising influence is exercised—so much so, that the Police authorities have testified that, in the quarters in which these halls are placed, a diminution of vice and intemperance can be recognised, and a spirit of order and peace has been spread abroad. This is what our eyes have seen; and in eternity, dear brother, what a blessed sheaf of saved souls will it be yours to lay at

the Lord of the harvest's feet! Yes, I have the firm assurance that, one day, you will say, in presence of a great multitude of redeemed ones, "Who are these, and whence come they?" And they will reply that it was in these humble meetings that they found Him who is "the way, the truth, and the life."

Dear brother McAll, I have seemed to lose sight of your struggles, your difficulties, your sacrifices, and those distressing cares which must often trouble even your sleep. Permit me to forget them to-day, that we may be full only of joy and felicitation on occasion of the festival which has called us together. And, since your seventieth birthday so nearly coincides with the twentieth anniversary of your ministry in Paris, let me apply to you those words of the Prophet, which shall form also our most affectionate wish for you :— "Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint."

Dear Mr. and dear Mrs. McAll, when, twenty years ago, you came to Paris, you were as strangers, like Abraham, "not knowing whither you went," leaving behind you your home, your kindred, your country, your church. . . . Look round now on this assembly, so full of warmth, so responsive; this host of friends who surround you! Think of the other meeting which is to be held on Monday in the great church of the Oratoire, where a whole people will be gathered together; think of these multitudes who, throughout France, invoke blessings on your name; and then say whether these two foreigners, these two voluntary exiles, have not found in our midst, a new home, a new family, a new church, a new country! (Applause.)

Mr. J. F. W. Deacon, of London, was then invited to speak. He stated that he rejoiced to appear there that day as the representative of the English Auxiliary of the Mission, of which he is chairman. He presented to Dr. McAll, through the president of the meeting, the following resolution, from the Committee in London, conveying their heart-felt congratulations on occasion

of the double anniversary, and the assurance of their warm interest in the work :—

"At a meeting of the Committee on 11th January, 1892, the following resolution was proposed and passed unanimously : 'That the Chairman be requested to convey to Dr. McAll their hearty good wishes and congratulations on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, and also to express to him their thankfulness that he has been spared to see the twentieth anniversary of the commencement of the blessed work which the Lord has privileged him to be the means of starting and carrying on in France, and they earnestly hope that he may be permitted still to preside over the work of the Mission for many years.'"

After Mr. Deacon we had one of Pastor APPIA'S (Lutheran Church) characteristic little speeches, so full of terse and brilliant thoughts. He said :—

Twenty years have elapsed since the day when, like a new Aquila and Priscilla,

Two Pilgrims from across the Channel,

entered the walls of this city to share with their brethren in the faith and ministry, the task of bringing comfort to the afflicted, and the light of the Gospel to a society harassed by discontent, and launched as on a stormy ocean.

These twenty years have passed like one day, and even before you have completed your twelve hours of labour, we wish to repeat to you, dear and honoured friend, the words addressed by the Roman officer to the fisherman of Bethsaida, "Thou hast well done that thou art come." Yes. You did well to come! Georges Fisch told you so before the experiment was made ; we repeat it after witnessing the development of your work. You did well to come as a foreigner, without heeding the difficulties of language, convinced that there is a banner broader than the Stars and Stripes; more glorious than the Tricolor ; and whose victory is more certain than that of the Union Jack—it is the flag upon which the Herald Angel wrote, "Good-will towards men." You did well to come as a foreigner, to repeat what we find in the epistle to Diognetes,

written in the first centuries of the Christian era: "Surely the social condition of the Christians is a strange one, they live in their own country, but live there as foreigners; they share in everything as citizens, but they suffer and endure everything like foreigners. Every foreign land becomes their country, and their country becomes a foreign land to them. They have to live in the flesh, but they do not live according to the flesh. Their dwelling-place is on earth, but their citizenship is in heaven."

Yes, you did well to continue the old Christian tradition that gave as an apostle to the Romans a Jew of Tarsus; which made of Anselm a youth of the Alps, a learned doctor, and Archbishop of Canterbury; of a Hungarian, the missionary of France; of two Frenchmen, the reformers of Germany and Switzerland.

The benevolence which led you to come among us may have failed, at times, to find as prompt an echo as one might have wished; but to-day, after twenty years of activity, you receive tokens of profound gratitude, of fraternal regard, of almost national thankfulness; and since this day is the moment in which to speak we tell you again

"Thou hast well done that thou art come,"

while we invoke upon you and your life-companion the Divine blessing.

Benevolence goes hand in hand with peace. You have found means to insure, in an unequalled degree, the co-operation of all the Christians in Paris, and almost of the whole world. In your Reports are found our names side by side, and glancing through them, we are reminded of Romans xvi., where all the co-workers of St. Paul, men and women, are grouped on the same page, blended, not by a common origin, but in the large heart of the same apostle. An unerring instinct guided you when, in order to preserve this general co-operation, you avoided creating a new ecclesiastical denomination, which, perhaps, might have given more tangible organisation to certain portions of your work, but would inevitably have stopped its growth and diminished your influence.

You also exercise that influence by means of sacred

song which, at your hands, has received a form new among us here, admirably adapted to local needs, and by these hymns you have efficiently contributed to keep up

A joyous and communicative Christianity.

To have attached your name to, nay, to have created, a collection of hymns, which can maintain piety among a multitude of families, is it not a great joy for you while, after twenty years, you behold the twenty-first edition of that collection ?

But you have not limited yourself to Gospel singing. Not content with producing superficial impressions which may soon be forgotten, you have sought to impart to children and adults alike, a solid Biblical instruction.

And now what is our wish ? That the token of respect, affection, and gratitude, we bring you to-day may be welcome and helpful ; that you may continue to us your sincere affection ; that you may yet for a long time be a living argument in favour of the Gospel you preach ; that God grant you to see that revival of our Churches for which you and we ardently pray ; and that we ourselves when that revival comes may be found meet to receive it, after having endeavoured to prepare the way for it.

Pastor HOCART, speaking on behalf of the Wesleyan Church, said :—

I am reminded by our meeting to-day of a word of the Apostle Paul. The churches of Judea had been struck by the character of his apostleship, and he saith, "They glorified God in me," and we would do the same. Our brother has allowed himself to be guided by the Lord. Dr. McAll believed in success. We have been told that there had not been wanting those who said, "I always knew the work would succeed," when they saw it succeeding ; but I have been informed, on the other hand, that when the Mission was commencing, some of the most excellent, the most faithful, and consequently, the most hopeful servants of Christ among us, discouraged our brother in his plans ; they told him, "Your idea is excellent, it does honour to your Christian zeal, but it cannot succeed."

Dr. McAll did not allow these sombre predictions to trouble him; his resolution was not shaken. He went to work all the same, taking for his motto,

"I believed, therefore have I spoken."

We are here to-day to say whether or no our brother's plan has failed. We see the results of his work; they prove that the faith of God's servant was not a blind presumption, and that, from a Christian point of view, it was perfectly rational. We cannot forget that this work has been carried on with a courage and perseverance, and in face of difficulties unknown to us who have always been preaching the Gospel in our mother-tongue.

I am truly glad that I have been asked to speak at this gathering. It is now more than seventeen years since I first began to work with Dr. McAll, and in the Mission meetings I have spent some of the

Happiest moments of my long life.

Much has been said this afternoon of the past; let me now say a word about the future. Whatever may have been up to this time the blessed results of the work in conversions and spiritual fruit, and I know, for a fact, that these have been considerable, I see in the present state of the Mission a preparation for future work, perhaps very near at hand, a work much greater, much deeper, and much more extensive than we see to-day. An indirect but mighty influence is exercised on all who attend the meetings; the Gospel is not only preached *to* the people, it is sung *by* them. I cannot describe the emotion I have often felt in hearing the hearty singing of such words as—

"I do believe, I will believe,
That Jesus died for me."

The preparation for future blessing is, I believe, being brought about specially by the instruction of the young. I was taking part at the Christmas *fête* at the Avenue de Wagram School the other day, and was asking the children some questions. I was glad to find that they were conversant with the ten commandments; no small matter at a time like the present when the sense of all moral obligation is so

weakened. But in the Mission schools you teach them not only the law, you give them the Gospel. I am delighted to see how literally the words of the Scripture are graven in their memories. I must confess I am, in many respects, of the old school. I believe in committing to memory portions of the Bible. I believe that thus the conscience and heart are reached. And how I loved to hear those children reciting together the promises of the Saviour! Can such teachings ever be effaced from their memories? I believe not.

What will those Children become?

Can it be that they will be entangled in the net of error and superstition, or captured by the wiles of irreligion and unbelief? Is it possible that they will be of those who boast that they live without God? Surely not; for you are sowing in their hearts the germs of faith; you give them the truth first,—the surest way to keep out error. Thus this Christian training of childhood is the destruction of the edifice, already tottering to its ruin, and does it not also fill up the void by its positive teaching? Gain the children to the faith of Christ and you insure a glorious future. You train up a generation, transformed, to grow in the ways of "temperance, justice, and piety." And what so cheered me at that Christmas *fête* was that those dear children would in all probability have

Never received any religious training

had it not been for these Gospel halls.

Now, another word about the future. I would speak of the influence of the evangelisation of the masses on the speakers themselves. They have had to study how to adapt their speaking to a different kind of public, composed of working people, ignorant of the things of God, and accustomed to put a different meaning to the religious expressions they hear. The evangelists have learned to

Speak a new language;

they have found the level of their auditors, and have become truly lay preachers. They have made themselves all things to all men, that they might save some. This adaptation of

preacher to people has reacted upon our preaching, and has modified it. I speak, of course, only for myself, but I speak from conviction ; we are breaking away to-day from the traditional form of sermon ; the ordinary discourses in church and chapel are feeling the effects of this law of adaptation ; the power of the Word of God has already gained and will gain more in the future. It is thus that the work of this Mission grows, and will grow, even outside its special line of work.

For all that is past, then, we will praise God, and for the future we will take fresh courage.

Pastor DECOPPET (Reformed Church) then read the following poem, written by himself :—

Au Rév. Monsieur McAll, à l'occasion du 20me anniversaire de la Mission Populaire, 16 Janvier, 1892.

Me sera-t il-permis, au sein d'une chapelle,
De porter la santé du héros de ce jour ?
Et de dire en mes vers tout ce que nous rappelle
Son nom que tant de cœurs disent avec amour ?

Il est connu, ce nom, dans toute notre France ;
Il est béni partout et partout respecté ;
Depuis nos sombres jours de deuil et de souffrance,
Comme un joyeux espoir nous l'avons répété !

Vous avez tout quitté, cher et généreux frère.
Famille, amis, patrie, un troupeau bien-aimé,
Pour venir annoncer, sur la terre étrangère,
L'Evangile éternel par Jésus proclamé.

Et du Maître imitant la charité profonde,
C'est vers les plus petits que vous êtes allé ;
C'est à nos ouvriers, sans espoir en ce monde,
Et trop souvent sans Dieu, que vous avez parlé.

Vous avez su trouver le chemin de leur âme ;
Ils se voyaient aimés, ils vous ont écouté !
De l'amour du Sauveur ils ont senti la flamme,
Car son reflet en vous, c'était votre bonté !

Ah ! souffrez qu'en leur nom je vous bénisse, frère ;
Souffrez que je vous dise : Ils vous aiment aussi !
De leur cœur et du nôtre en cet anniversaire,
Un même mot s'échappe, et ce mot, c'est " merci ! "

Puissiez-vous conserver votre verte vieillesse !
Voir votre œuvre arriver à de nouveaux vingt ans,
Et par nous entouré de respect, de tendresse,
"Du travail de votre âme," en paix jouir longtemps !

After singing two verses of the hymn—

"Serrons nos rangs autour de notre Maître.
Soyons unis, la victoire est à nous."

the meeting closed with prayer, and then a pleasant hour was spent in conversation, refreshments being handed round by a group of young French ladies.

To sum up the impression left by this gathering, I quote from the Paris correspondent of one of the French religious papers :—

"Yesterday we had a true *fête* of the Evangelical Alliance. . . . Lutherans, Reformed Church, Methodists, Baptists, English, French, Americans, surrounded Mr. and Mrs. McAll, beneath garlands of evergreens beautifully arranged, and in the intimacy of a true family gathering."

The following letter, from the American McAll Association, was received after the meetings were over :—

BUREAU OF THE McALL ASSOCIATION,
1710 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, 14*th January*, 1892.

To the Rev. R. W. McALL, D.D.,

Dear Friend,—The American McAll Association has learned, with very great pleasure, of the approaching *fête* and presentation which are to mark the birthdays of yourself and the Mission.

We wish that by personal presence we might the more fully assure you of our Christian affection, and of the earnestness of our prayer that you may long be spared in the service to which God has so providentially called you.

We beg you to accept our cordial salutations and good wishes, and to convey them also to dear Mrs. McAll. We delight to associate her name with yours in the loving thoughts of the McAll Mission.

We add a renewed assurance that whatever may be within our power in aid of the Mission's maintenance, and increased effectiveness, we shall gladly do. We esteem it a holy privilege to have part in a work so approved of earth, and so favoured of heaven.

By order, and on behalf of the Board of Directors,

LAURA M. FETTEROLF,
Recording Secretary.

On Monday evening the great church of the Oratoire was crowded to its utmost capacity. It was the people's meeting. They had gathered to show their gratitude and affection for the kind friends who, for twenty long years, had been living among them, and laying themselves out to serve them. It was a truly splendid sight. There were those who had been among the attendants at the meetings in the early days, come down from Ménilmontant, or Montmartre, or from the Gare d'Ivry, to have their share in the evening's joy. And then the bright faces of the young people from every quarter, and the general air of cheerful expectancy, made the old building seem alive in the best sense of the word.

A large number of pastors and friends assembled in the vestry to meet Dr. McAll, and when the procession filed in there were not many places vacant.

After the opening hymn—

"Ton nom soit à jamais béni,
Dieu d'amour!"

and the reading of the Scriptures, Pastor WOOD (Wesleyan), offered prayer.

Pastor RECOLIN (Reformed Church), who presided, said as follows :—

I have most gladly accepted the honour of presiding on this occasion, although I feel that I do not deserve it, in view of the limited measure of personal service I am able to render to the Mission. The work, however, has my entire sympathy. Let me, in a few words, retrace its beginnings. Let us look back in thought more than twenty years. It is the month of

August, 1871, and immediately after our disasters. The very ruins wrought by the war and the Commune are still smouldering. An Englishman and his wife visit Paris. He comes rather as Christian philanthropist than as tourist, as St. Paul visited Athens. His heart is not only stirred but agonised by the desolations and misery which meet his view. Moved with compassion, he visits Belleville, and there seeks to do some good by distributing tracts. At the corner of the main street of Belleville and the External Boulevard, in face of a wine-shop, he meets a workman, who (strange to say) speaks to him in English. "Sir," he says, "are you not a pastor?" "Yes." "Then, why not come to speak to us of this religion of peace and love of which you are minister? We have had enough of the attempt to impose religion on us, but if you will come to speak of a religion of liberty and earnestness, many of us will listen with joy."

These words were, for Mr. and Mrs. McAll, what the appeal of the Macedonian, "Come over and help us," was for St. Paul. Some months later they bade adieu to their country, their kindred, and their Church, and took up their abode in Paris.

January 17, 1872—twenty years from yesterday—the first *Réunion Populaire* was held, Rue Julien Lacroix. I need not describe these meetings, you all know what they are. Nothing singular or noisy characterises them; everything is simple and Biblical. Reading of God's Word, joyous and captivating hymns, homely and earnest addresses, prayer, then, at the close, a cordial shaking of hands—that is all.

Other halls were speedily opened, and soon became like

A beneficent chain encircling Paris.

At present, there are 136 halls, of which 27 are in Paris, 16 in the environs, and 93 in the Departments, in Algeria, and in Corsica. Have we not here the realisation of John Bost's saying, "One good achievement leads on to another"?

Mr. McAll went on to organise Sunday and Thursday Schools, and charming juvenile *fêtes* in summer, not to speak of the Christmas-tree festivals. He followed up his work with unequalled perseverance and patience, undaunted by the gloomy prognostications of some onlookers, and only asking one thing of us, which he soon obtained, the

co-working of the pastors and of Christian laymen of all the evangelical Churches of Paris, which he succeeded in uniting, through his amiable spirit and gifts of persuasion, in a common work, notwithstanding the minor differences of opinion. It is a work of true Evangelical Alliance.

As to the fruits of this work, some are known to God only, others we can now recognise with joy and thankfulness. To speak only of one of these fruits, that of moralisation, it is well known that twice during these twenty years the police authorities, when the question was raised whether the Mission Halls should be sanctioned or closed, gave encouragement to pursue the work, "for," added these authorities, "in the quarters where the halls exist there is a perceptible diminution of disorder and vice."

When the Mission had attained its twenty years, its friends consulted as to how they might testify their gratitude, first to God, and then to its founder. Thus arose the project of the festival we celebrate to-day. We are gathered here not to glorify or canonise a man, but to encourage him. To God only be the glory!

Dear brother, we bless you for your good and generous thought, inspired by God Himself, to come here into our midst, not to add to our political or ecclesiastical complications, but to aid us to make known the glad tidings of the Gospel in this Paris, which is not exclusively given to scepticism and mockery of religion, but in which there are so many spirits, as at Athens of old, who sigh after the knowledge of "the unknown God," the God of Jesus Christ.

This God, in whom you confided, has not forsaken you. He has upheld your strength, and blessed your labours. You have succeeded in

Uniting us in a common work

for the advancement of God's kingdom. You have led us to break from our old habitudes, and go beyond our places of worship in order to come into more immediate contact with the people. Thus you have taught us to give to our preaching a character at once more simple, vigorous, and popular, and that has been a blessing to us.

We bless you, then, you and your dear wife, in the name

of your colleagues, in the name of the pastors of Paris, in the name of our Churches. It is in their joint name that I offer you the hand of brotherly recognition.

Thanks, dear brother,

thanks to you and to Mrs. McAll, who has been truly your helpmeet. May God permit you to see yet for long years your work prosper, and be a blessing to our country, and to our beloved Churches! And may the Name of the God of love, from whom cometh every sacred work and every good thought, be blessed above all!

In closing his address, Pastor Recolin extended his hand to Dr. McAll, who affectionately grasped it, amidst the applause of the assembly.

After a piece sung by the Choir of the church (who led the singing), a certain number of men, appearing severally as the representatives of the different Mission halls in Paris, rose and remained standing in front of the platform. Pastor THEODORE MONOD then spoke as follows:—

Dear Dr. McAll, I avow that I find it difficult to restrain myself within the limits of the duty which I have the honour, the great honour to fulfil this evening, and I should be tempted to address you in my own name, were it not that, if I ventured on personal reminiscences, I should not know where to end.

I could well speak in my capacity as pastor, and tell you in the name of my colleagues, what our Churches, our pastoral activity, even our preaching, owe to you.

I could also speak in the name of the other evangelistic works in our country. You have never thought of yours as if it were the only one. There are some older and some of more recent date than yours; there are some which make less public stir than yours, and others which make more. In your Annual Report you have a fraternal word for each of these enterprises, you ignore no one, you are jealous of no one, therefore it is that God gives you His blessing.

And finally, I might address you

In the name of the whole Protestant community of France ; but, in that respect, I will confine myself to mentioning a *lapsus* which escaped you in your speech on Saturday (it is not very polite to expose your error in public, but I found it so charming that I cannot resist the inclination to repeat it). You expressed yourself somewhat as follows : "Dear friends, when I arrived in France I knew no one ; I was completely a stranger among *us*." Yes, you said "among *us*." So when you address French people, and wish to say "among you," your heart reaches your lips in advance of your thoughts, and causes you to say "among *us*." Well, we will not contradict you, for we consider you as altogether of our own people. (Applause.)

But in speaking this evening, I simply represent this little battalion (the representatives of the Paris Mission halls) which stands there, opposite to me, and of which I am simply the mouthpiece. It is the first time in my life that I find myself at the head of a battalion! I am their representative, and they represent the Mission halls of Paris, which, in their turn, may be taken as representing the 136 halls throughout France.

It is, then, in the name of all the accustomed attendants of all those halls, that I desire to

Offer you a lasting memorial

of this twentieth anniversary. They have subscribed for the purpose. Don't be alarmed, no heavy burden has been laid upon any one ; the sum contributed by each would not have sufficed to pay an outside place on the omnibus ; in fact, the subscription was fixed at ten centimes (1d.) Conquerors have used cannons taken from the enemy to form them into bells, or into the *bas-reliefs* of a triumphal column, as at the Place Vendôme. This time, the bronze, furnished not by enemies but by friends, will have served to cast the statuette which is now unveiled. (A covering falls and shows a timepiece serving as pedestal to an elegant bronze, twenty-seven inches high, while applause resounds from all over the vast building.) You have before you Luther, as a boy, singing in the streets to win his bread. I do not know who selected this bronze, but it seems to me that he could not

have done better. *Luther*—that is to say, the Reformation ; *Luther*—that is to say,

The Bible put into the hands of the people ;

Luther—that is to say, salvation by Jesus Christ alone, given by grace alone, and received by faith alone. That is the Gospel which has always been proclaimed, and always will be proclaimed in the Mission you have founded.

But the Reformer, as he is here presented before our eyes, appears as yet only *a child.* And how can one look upon this child, and not think of the special mission you carry on for the religious instruction of the children ? How can one do otherwise than think of these children gathered in your Sunday and Thursday schools, directed, in various quarters of Paris by your colleague so competent and so devoted, the Rev. C. E. Greig, the number frequenting which throughout France exceeds 8000 ? Among all the departments of your work this is perhaps the most important, and has

The richest future before it.

Luther, the boy, was far from foreseeing what he would one day become ; and who can tell whether, among the children of your schools, there may not be hidden a Luther !

Lastly, what is our little Luther doing at this moment ? He is *singing.* What does he sing ? I do not know ; but I imagine that if he were here this evening, you would put into his hand this Hymn Book, which has now reached its 22nd edition—its 159th thousand—which has speedily become so popular throughout the French Churches, which recalls to us another debt of gratitude that we would not forget this evening. You would open for the young singer at Hymn 34, which, if I mistake not, you especially like to announce when you open a new Mission hall, and which closes thus :—

Trouverons-nous de la place ?
Ce bonheur est-il pour nous ?
—Venez ! En ce jour de grâce,
Le ciel est ouvert pour tous.

A la source de la vie
Dieu lui-même vous convie :
Amis, venez avec nous !*

As for us, we have responded to this invitation (M. Monod looks round upon the sea of upturned faces as joining in this response), we have "come with you," others, in their turn, have "come with us," and others will yet "come" to learn to know, love, and serve God.

Our statuette rests on a timepiece. What this timepiece says to me, I will not attempt to repeat; indeed, I am sure it will not fail to impart to you the same confidential communications as to me. May it during long years,

Sound out for you hours of blessing!

May God give you to be among those "vigorous" ones, of whom Moses speaks in Psalm xc., for whom the threescore years and ten are but a stage on the route towards fourscore years! May it sound out for you, day after day, the hours of work and of repose, of paternal discipline and of joy, of supplication and of thanksgiving! May it sound out many of those hours, blessed above all others, which survive the flight of time because they belong to eternity!

I arrive now at my third point, that is, at the third souvenir which I have to present to you. It is the humblest of the three, but, possibly,

The one you will most of all appreciate.

Do not search in this Album for photographs or pictures. It contains only letters—letters in which the frequenters of your Mission halls express their congratulation and their desires for you. Their number is 117, representing 136 halls. The

* This hymn is a free translation of the well-known "Whither Pilgrims are you going?" and of which the last verse runs :—

"Pilgrims may we travel with you
To that bright and better land?
Come and welcome, come and welcome,
Welcome to our pilgrim-band.
Come, O come, and do not leave us,
Christ is waiting to receive us,
In that bright, that better land."

signatures are 5300. (Applause.) They are very diversified in character, in some cases truly touching in their *naïveté.* Let me read a single one. All the letters show something of the same sincerity and warmth. It is dated from Marseilles, 21st December, 1891 :—

"Our position, dear Mr. McAll, was formerly very sad; our heart was blinded, our life was agitated by the pleasures of the world, most of all by the abuse of alcohol, which rendered our home-life wretched. The abyss of eternal ruin was ready to engulf us, when we were arrested in this rapid career by entering a Mission hall where they spoke of God. We have received Jesus as our Saviour. So all our sins are gone away; the life of heaven has taken the place of that of the world, and happiness that of misery. In a word, peace, joy, the love of God, and eternal life are now our portion. I thank you in the name of all the redeemed ones of Christ for having contributed to this redemption by your labours. Our hearts, full of gratitude, pray God to bless you, and to give you a happy old age. Signed in the name of the members of the Gospel Temperance Society."

The affectionate wishes expressed in the letters are epitomised at the head of the volume in some lines which I have been recommended to read to you in conclusion. Looking closely into them, I perceive that they have been set to rhyme. The incident to which allusion is made in the first verse is absolutely authentic. It took place some fifteen years ago in the hall of Boulevard Ornano, Montmartre, Paris.

A Monsieur McAll,

Fondateur de la Mission Populaire Evangélique de France

(1872-1892).

Un soir de Conférence, une vieille ouvrière
Disait (vous présidiez) : "Qu'importe son accent ?"
"Il est si bon, si doux, et si compatissant !" . . .
C'était donner la clef de votre vie entière.

Les arts et les plaisirs, sentiers semés de fleurs,
Attirent l'étranger vers notre capitale ;
Mais vous, au lendemain de la guerre fatale,
Ce qui vous attira, ce furent nos douleurs.

Vous aviez entendu, comme autrefois l'Apôtre,
Une voix suppliante : "Oh ! viens nous secourir !"
Et dans un quartier pauvre on vous vit accourir,
Quittant votre pays pour adopter le nôtre.

Laissez-nous vous bénir, laissez-nous vous aimer,
Vous, et de vos labeurs la compagne fidèle :
Vous nous avez porté la Parole éternelle . . .
Notre dette envers vous ne saurait s'exprimer.

Vous avez fait jaillir l'eau de la source vive,
Sur la route poudreuse où l'on marche à pas lourds ;
L'Eglise est descendue au bord des carrefours
Offrir le pain du ciel à la foule attentive.

On parle simplement, pour les simples d'esprit ;
On prie, et Dieu fait grâce à nos âmes troublées ;
Combien nous les aimons, ces humbles assemblées,
Où l'on chante à plein cœur le Seigneur Jésus-Christ !

De faubourg en faubourg, de Paris à la France,
Le semeur voit grandir le champ de ses travaux ;
Déjà blanchit au loin l'aube des temps nouveaux . . .
Il verra la moisson passer son espérance.

Au nom de tous les habitués de toutes les salles.

TH. M.

(Loud applause.)

Dr. McALL, rising amidst great applause, and much moved, said :—

Monsieur Reeolin, Monsieur Monod, and dear friends, it is not in my power to express the sentiments which fill our hearts. I say, *our* hearts, for my dear wife is one with me in all that I would fain utter. Need I say how deeply we are touched in looking round on the crowd of friends thronging this vast church ? How vividly we recall, in contrast, our first little evangelistic meeting in Paris just twenty years ago ! Blessed be God for all that He has wrought ! We praise Him for you, dear French pastors and laymen, for you, our band of co-workers, and the Christian ladies who so disinterestedly aid us.

Truly Saturday and this evening have been for us

Days filled with surprises.

This beautiful statuette timepieee tells us of a world of affeetion! And this volume, how preeious it will be to us —a eherished treasure—so long as life lasts!

I expressed on Saturday our gratitude to the Freneh pastors and laymen who (like you, Monsieur Recolin) have given to us your mueh-prized eo-operation during the past years. And let me again mention the names of beloved friends and helpers who have been ealled away—the Pastors Bersier, Georges Fiseh, de Pressensé, Goguel, Paul Cook, Lepoids; and Messieurs Rosseeuw St. Hilaire, Keller, Dr. Gustave Monod, Leuzinger, Dieterlen, and, last of all, Monsieur Sébastien de Neufville; and the dear ladies, Mesdames de Staël, Andre-Walther, Sehneider, St. Hilaire, Keller. And ean I forget another name, though not that of a Frenehman—the name of my beloved eolleague, George Theophilus Dodds! We bless God that so many valued friends remain to us, and for sending reeently among us, as the representatives of our Ameriean supporters, our eolleague the Rev. Dr. Loba. . . .

And now I turn to you, the habitual attendants of our various Mission halls. What joy it gives us to see you erowding around us here! I will not eoneeal from you that

It cost us much, twenty years ago, to leave our country,

our friends, our beloved Chureh, in order to take up our abode here in Paris, where we were then eompletely strangers. I venture to affirm that no one eould delight more than I in the saered relations binding a Christian pastor to his floek. Yet we have always felt it to be a privilege of whieh we were entirely unworthy, to be permitted to put forth this effort, in the sister-land, in the name of our Master. I well remember saying to Mrs. MeAll, just as we were leaving England: "We must prepare ourselves to be entirely deprived of the affeetion of our eongregation, our great family, so to speak. If the Freneh working-elasses will listen to the preaehing of Christ erueified, we shall have abundant reason to give thanks to God; but, as to the personal attaehment of those among whom we labour, there

is an end of it." In that, I rejoice to testify, we were entirely mistaken. The affectionate regard of the attendants of our Mission halls, above all, in the long-established stations, has been to as a great support and a precious encouragement.

We are *numerous* this evening. Numerous, I say. One thought most powerfully impresses me as I allude to this fact. There is

Another assembly convened at this very hour,

the company of our beloved attendants of past days, who have gone before us to heaven—of those who received in our Mission halls the knowledge of their Saviour, and have died in His peace. They are now where poverty, suffering, and sin are unknown. And I firmly believe that this assembly on high is, at least,

As numerous as the gathering of to-night.

Well, dear friends, do we not all desire that these two assemblies may become, ere long, one undivided and blessed throng? Suffer, then, your old Director to take you by the hand, one by one, and lead you to the feet of that Saviour whom he has sought, during these twenty years, to teach you to love. You who have long frequented our meetings without taking the great decisive step, and you, beloved young friends, who form, so to speak, the future of the Mission and the joy of our heart, say this evening, before God,

"From henceforth, Jesus Christ for me.

From henceforth I belong to the family. From henceforth I claim a humble place in the great Church of the firstborn written in heaven."

Finally, dear pastors, laymen, colleagues, lady-helpers, and you especially who have received Christ in our Mission halls, let us all set ourselves afresh to this sacred task, and go forward, hand in hand, in the effort to spread throughout this fair land of France the knowledge of the Gospel. God waits to give us new and yet richer blessings!

Renewed applause followed the close of Dr. McAll's address.

The hymn, "Semons dès que brille l'aurore," being sung,

Pastor Picard (senior Pastor of the Reformed Church of L'Etoile, late Pastor Bersier's), in expressing his cordial sympathy with all that had passed, referred to the question often asked respecting the visible results of the Mission. He would reply by pointing to this great meeting, composed, in very large part, of those brought under the influence of the Gospel in the Mission halls, and say, "Come and see for yourselves." He referred to the wonderful way in which, in nature, even seed which seems to have been lost becomes fertilised, and applied the analogy to the precious seed of Divine truth.

Alluding to the appeal addressed that evening by the President of the Mission to the attendants of the halls, he urged that every one should seek to become a sower. No one should say, "I am unfit, weak, and little instructed." There is a work for every one to do. M. Picard exhorted all present to aid Mr. and Mrs. McAll in diffusing the incorruptible seed of the kingdom.

Monsieur Eugène Réveillaud (of the Mission Intérieure, and one of the Directors of the McAll Mission) followed with an address in which he dwelt with sympathetic pleasantry on some of the supposed derivations of the name of the founder of the Mission.

Pastor Vincent (Baptist) referred with gratitude to the work of Dr. McAll as having been of value to the pastors in showing them how to reach the surrounding masses. They had learned to go beyond the boundaries of their churches and chapels, to seek out the people, and to adapt themselves to their needs. He referred to the great responsibility of Christians in the vast city of Paris.

The Choir sang another piece, and

The last speaker was Pastor Cordey (of the Free Church, Chapelle Taitbout). He referred to the solemnity which ought to mingle with our joy at such an hour. He said, "God is in the midst of us here, where we are all of one mind and heart. God is speaking; may we listen to His

voice! And not only may we who are set apart to the work of the ministry listen, but you also, dear friends, who have been converted in our Mission halls. Upon you rests an immense responsibility. How you should seek and strive to lead others around you to share the blessing! And you who have not yet responded to the Divine call, who have not yet offered to God the one most precious gift He claims—your heart, to you I earnestly say, Do not delay. Let there be in you something of the spirit which animated Martin Luther when he exclaimed, 'I cannot do otherwise; this is the truth; it is mine.'

Oh, let not this favourable opportunity slip.

Remember the solemn words of our Saviour, 'Woe unto thee, Chorazin, woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works which have been done in thee had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago.' Yes, we may indeed say, 'Woe unto you, for if the miracles of grace which have been witnessed during these twenty years in Paris had been done in China, or in Japan, or in the lowest haunts of some foreign town, many would have repented.' Give, then, all of you, at this hour, your hearts to God."

Pastor THEODORE MONOD expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Church Council of the Oratoire for granting the use of the building, and to the Choir for their highly appreciated co-operation; he also delivered a message from Pastor Mettetal (Lutheran), his colleague in the work of the Salle Rivoli, at his unavoidable absence through illness. Pastor AUGUSTE FISCH (Free Church) offered the closing prayer, and the vast assembly separated.

Thus ended the second of these most successful and joyful gatherings. We believe that the hallowed memories evoked by them, and that the words of cheer and counsel spoken at them, will not be quickly forgotten by any who were there. Truly we can say, "*Ebenezer*," and we will take fresh courage and go forward in the name of the Lord and Master to fresh efforts and, we trust, better service for "La belle France."

The following are the names of some of those who attended these meetings:—

Pastors Couve, Decoppet, Dhombres, Jacot, G. Meyer, W. Monod, G. Monod, Recolin, Cerisier, Keck, Migot, Lorriaux, Creisseil, Lalot, Paumier, Picard, Rayroux, Vinard, Weiss, Ch. Vernes, Th. Monod, Pasquet (Reformed Church), G. and L. Appia, Boegner, Goguel, J. Meyer, Dieterlen (Lutheran), Cordey, Fisch, Hollard, Fuster, Mouron (Free Church), Saillens, Foulquier, Vincent (Baptist), Hocart, Prunier, Wood (Wesleyan), Fourneau (Mission Intérieure).

Revs. Dr. Noyes, Dr. Thurber, Dr. Loba, J. Bramley Hart, R. de Carteret, H. T. Hunter, C. E. Greig, S. R. Brown, Drs. Benham, Estrabaud, and Kirby, Colonel Paschkoff, Messrs. L. Sautter, Mirabaud, de Rougemont, Rouilly, Kern, Rieder, J. F. W. Deacon, G. Monod, Savile, Soltau, Macgregor, Sagnol, Rombeaux, Dentan, de Visme, Ludwig, Renckhoff, Karl Anderssen, Galtier, Feingold, Vignal, Mandrin, Lievens, Débats, &c.

From Nice, M. Louis Biau, the evangelist in charge of the work there, forwarded Dr. McAll an elegant photograph stand in olive wood, which had been subscribed for by several friends in that town.

Letters and telegrams were received from many friends in England, Scotland, and France, expressing their regret at being unable to attend, and their hearty sympathy with the object of the meetings.

THE McALL MISSION IN FRANCE

(Mission Populaire Evangélique de France).

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